

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board 105 5th Street, Suite 206 Richmond, KY 40475 859.624.4700 / 859.986.7565



Reagan Taylor Craig Williams Co-Chairs

Doug Hindman Chair

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting Summary of Action Items and Discussions Sept. 13, 2017 Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Richmond, Kentucky

<u>Attendees</u>

CAC: Diane Kerby, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Harry Moberly, George Ridings (provisional), April Webb (for Jon Maybriar) and Craig Williams

CDCAB: Jeff Brubaker, Lt. Col. Scott Gould, Ron Hink, Mike Hogg, Terry House, Diane Kerby, Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Darcy Maupin, Bryan Makinen, Harry Moberly, George Ridings, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Norbert Fochs), Reagan Taylor, April Webb (for Jon Maybriar), Craig Williams and Ethan Witt (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's office)

Media Attendees:

The Richmond Register: Kelly McKinney Lexington Herald-Leader: Greg Kocher

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Introduction of New Program Executive Officer
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) Permitting Updates
- Permitting Comments

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations; instead, it will provide an overview of the discussions and action items of government

representatives and various members of the CAC and CDCAB. Key action items identified in the meeting and a synopsis of the major questions and comments discussed during the various updates are noted below. Copies of slides and handouts presented during the meeting can be obtained from the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office (ORO) at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Action Items

None.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Parke, Manager, ORO

Parke welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted the following action item from the June 14, 2017, CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Confirm 2018 CAC/CDCAB meeting dates.	Dates provided in Sept. 13 meeting information packet. No opposition to the proposed dates was voiced.	Complete

Opening Remarks – Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Taylor welcomed attendees and said he appreciates everyone for what they do. Williams seconded Taylor's remarks and welcomed Suzanne Milchling, program executive officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA). He mentioned Doug Hindman, Jeanne Hibberd, Sheila Pressley and Tara Long were not able to make it to the meeting. Williams then said George Ridings is a new provisional member of the CAC and Ridings' company's legal representative is working to determine if there is any conflict with his filling this position before he can be accepted.

Key Updates

Introduction of New Program Executive Officer – Suzanne Milchling, Program Executive Officer, ACWA

Milchling introduced herself to the group. She said she previously visited BGCAPP and met CAC/CDCAB leaders, Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program personnel and KDEP representatives, among others. Milchling said she looks forward to

working with everyone and plans to continue the existing program transparency and close relationships with the community. She said she started an initiative to find ways to destroy the stockpiles in a faster, more efficient way while still maintaining environmental compliance and safety. Milchling said the ACWA program is a significant portion of the Department of Defense budget and destroying chemical weapons is the right thing to do, but she wants to figure out how to do it in a more financially responsible way. She will recommend a schedule and life cycle cost estimate in the spring of 2018 and would like sound ideas from project workers on how to "get rid of the bullets" quickly and safely in a fiscally responsible manner. Milchling said she plans to work with the CAC and CDCAB on this initiative. She said she knows there will be problems in the plant and feels solutions are needed in advance to be able to fix things when they occur. She said she is here to help the program move forward to see the elimination of these last two stockpiles.

BGCAPP Project Update – Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager (SPM), BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG)

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Brubaker gave an at-a-glance update. He said final permits have been received for the Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) project, reminding the group of the project layup due to funding limitations, and said personnel are getting ready to bring the equipment back out of lay-up, complete the remaining construction and move the project into systemization. Brubaker said the current plan is to complete all EDT construction but the Electronic Security System (ESS) by end of spring 2018 and the EDT Operational Readiness Review will be performed after main plant operations begin. He discussed plant schedule and funding and said the plant was fortunate to receive supplemental funding, and immediately began actions in several areas with the benefit of that funding. He reminded the group that the Supercritical Water Oxidation (SCWO) process was also limited in 2017 due to funding and the completion of weld repairs he reported last meeting as complete. He said there will be dedicated focus on SCWO systemization beginning in October. Brubaker gave a brief explanation of ESS and said the plant is working to complete those activities earlier than scheduled. He said proposals have been released to industry for design and fabrication of the rocket-motor gloveboxes. He said another supplemental-funding action is approximately 100 people on start-up crews have been approved to work 50-hour weeks instead of 40. Hink reported on safety and said he is pleased with the performance of the workforce, which has accomplished about threeand-a-guarter years without a lost-time injury. He discussed progress in the main plant and said the Tray Handling System has been turned over to operations, process robots are being systemized and the systemization team is working on ramping up testing of the Metal Parts Treater (MPT). Hink said the MPT was brought up to low power and it was working well when they had some arcing from main power bus. They replaced and recoated the bus and are continuing to bring the MPT up to power, and they don't see any additional issues at low power. Brubaker explained the main plant roadmap and said

it is a tool developed to guide the project to initiation of plant operations. He mentioned the Blue Grass Chemical Activity will be responsible for providing equipment for different levels of protective gear for plant workers. Brubaker showed the plant overview photograph and said not much has changed on the outside, but the plant is humming along making noises as it is being tested and checked out. Hink covered permitting updates and provided photographs of plant activities and gave information about them. He explained there were some interferences with robot motion discovered during testing. They will be easy to fix, and that is why the testing is done, to recognize and fix issues like these. Hink then said the ESS is responsible for additional conduit work around the plant, and rescue training is well underway as it is best done now to get the teams used to the plant and to working together. He discussed the project's economic impact and said staffing should start ramping back up in six to nine months. He said the current staff is sufficient for systemization, but people will need to be hired and start training for operations. Brubaker provided a brief Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) update and said they had encountered some challenges, one of which was the rapid filling of their hydrolysate storage tanks. PCAPP made the decision to temporarily ship some hydrolysate off-site for disposal and that effort has been successfully completed.

Williams formally welcomed Milchling and thanked her for her comments. He said many of the objectives she identified are things the CAC/CDCAB are sensitive to as well, and the CDCAB has a number of working groups to look at specific issues. He requested she let the groups know if there is anything they can do through Brubaker and Hink to help facilitate the current issues. Williams then said he was pleased to hear the Static Detonation Chamber is starting to get attended to again. He thanked Sen. McConnell, along with many other people in ACWA, the Department of Defense, etc., for helping the project acquire funding. He opined it would be difficult for anyone not to be impressed with the roadmap and the effort required to start operations. Williams said he personally feels a significant amount of progress can now be seen versus the last CAC/CDCAB meeting and that group confidence is very high.

KDEP Permitting Update – Dale Burton, Blue Grass Army Depot Section, and April Webb, Hazardous Waste Branch Manager, KDEP

Burton gave an overview of the current standing of the plant's main permitting actions: Revision 6 of the plant's Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) permit (comprehensive update to the original 2005 permit), the Class 2 modification to the RD&D permit (removal of munitions washout and removal of cyanide from the destruction process) and the waste analysis plan for the main plant. He said KDEP's schedule goals for the above actions are to receive resubmittals on all three actions in early October, compile the draft RD&D permit by the end of October, public notice the Revision 6 and Class 2 modifications in November and probably hold a public meeting for those modifications in early December, leading to the modifications probably being issued around the beginning of 2018. Burton said another item is the GB sampling permit modification and he anticipates additional modifications coming in for rocket-motor

storage and the depot's open burn/open detonation permit. He noted there were approximately 19 smaller modifications that will need attention, as well. Webb said the comment period for revised Kentucky regulations ended in August and her group is currently responding to comments, which will probably be deferred to the end of 2017.

Williams asked for clarification on the deferral. Webb said there were comments on some but not all of the regulations, so they need to defer the whole package to put everything together, as there is some cross-over with other regulations not enforced by KDEP.

Permitting Comments - Craig Williams, Co-Chair, CDCAB

Williams apologized to the group for not assembling a full working group to discuss the permit modifications and explained the working group recommendation process for Milchling. He said he had been briefed on the subjects and had followed up with various agencies and provided comments on the modifications from his Kentucky Environmental Federation organization that did not claim to reflect the opinions of any other groups. Williams noted there will be an opportunity to comment on the drafts when they are released. He said if any group members would like to discuss the comments he provided or wanted to make further comments, to please contact him. The comment letters were included in the meeting handouts.

Closing Remarks - Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB

Taylor said he appreciates everyone's attendance. Williams welcomed Milchling again and urged attendees to go online and check out her background. He said he was very confident in her capabilities.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. at the EKU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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